

CLAIMS

1. A compressed-data processing arrangement comprising buffer means for receiving a stream of compressed data and de-multiplexing means for retrieving navigation information embedded within the compressed data, characterised in that the said buffer means comprises a common buffer and further including pointer memory means for storing a plurality of pointers arranged to identify sectors of data in the said common buffer for the onward delivery of data to decoding means.

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2. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the common buffer and pointer memory are located in a common memory block.

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3. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the de-multiplexing means comprises a single de-multiplexer arranged to provide for common processing and de-multiplexing of all data within the data stream substantially at the same time.

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4. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the pointers are arranged to identify buffer pointer off-set collections within the sectors of data stored within the common buffer.

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5. An arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, wherein the pointers are arranged to determine the location of data sectors in the common buffer, and such that the data is then referenced by a list of pointers seeking to identify the order of the groups of sectors.

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6. An arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, when the pointer memory is arranged to include a second list of pointers serving to identify the location of packets of data and also to identify the data contained therein.

7. A DVD player including a compressed-data processing arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-6.

8. A set-top-box arrangement including a compressed-data processing arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-6.

9. A method of processing compressed data, comprising the steps of receiving a stream of compressed data within buffering means and retrieving navigation information embedded within the compressed data by means of de-multiplexing means, characterised by the steps of buffering the said compressed data in a common buffer and employing a plurality of stored pointers for identifying sectors of data in the said common buffer for delivery to decoding means.

15 10. A method as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the said navigation information is retrieved by way of a single de-multiplexer arranged to provide for common processing and de-multiplexing of all data within the data stream substantially at the same time.

20 11. A method as claimed in Claim 9 or 10, and including the step of employing the pointers to identify buffer pointer off-set collections within the sectors of data stored within the common buffer.

25 12. A method as claimed in Claim 9, 10 or 11, and including the steps of arranging the said pointers to determine the location of data sectors in the common buffer, and then referencing the said data by the list of pointers seeking to identify the order of the groups of sectors.

30 13. A method as claimed in Claim 9, 10 or 11, and including arranging the pointer memory to include a second list of pointers serving to identify the location of packets of data and also to identify the data contained therein.